

DECEMBER

of beautiful colors had passed into the dead blankness of a desolate monochromatic landscape. We reckon childhood to be a fragmentary Eden, a little patch of that heavenly Mosiac that made Adam and Eve glad. In it, we think, we have glimpses of glorious possibilities; which are to come to a flowering of eternal felicity in that land where the freshness and joy and full happiness of a perfect, because God-like, childhood shall be evermore preserved.—*Auburn Gazette*.

THE REPUBLICAN.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1854.

This paper is filed, and may be seen free of charge, at HOLLOWAY'S PILL AND OINTMENT ESTABLISHMENT, 244, STRAND LONDON, where Advertisements and Subscriptions will be received for this Periodical.

We have increased the amount of reading matter in the present number of our paper, and shall continue to do so for several weeks; and we also promise that portion of our readers who do not take so much interest in war and politics, to publish in a short time an additional number of miscellaneous articles.

BENTON COUNTY.

From the returns of L. W. Cannon, Esq., Tax Assessor for this County for 1854, we extract the following items of information, which will doubtless be interesting to most of our readers:

Whole amount of State Tax, \$7,379.29
" County Tax, 3,660.61

Total, \$11,039.90

Value of Real Estate, \$1,037,406
Number of Slaves, 3,623
" of White polls, 1,606
Gold Watches, \$8
Clocks, 481
Value of Pleas. Carringtons, \$35,561
Amount of money loaned, \$67,709

We are gratified to find the financial condition of our County so favorable, and hope the time is not far distant when certain classes of claims will be paid in something more available than the proceeds arising from fines and forfeitures.

THE TEXAS & SANTA FE RAIL ROAD.—The contract of Messrs. R. J. Walker & T. Butler King, by whom they were to have received some millions of acres of land has been forfeited. They are required by the law to deposit \$300,000 of par stocks, as security for the work. The stocks offered by them having been considered worthless by the Governor, he has rejected them, and advertised for new proposals.

We are gratified to find such language as the following, relative to the contemplated Rail Road from Rome to this place, in a *last* *copy* of *the* *Jackville Republic*, with positive language, leaving out that word "probability," is followed by corresponding action, it may be that Rome will yet save the connection with the Selma Road at this place. But we think, that the "probability" that she will fail to do so is "beyond a doubt."

THE RAIL ROAD.

"We understand that at the Rail Road meeting in Rome on Saturday last, measures were taken, which place the probability of building a road from this point to Jacksonville beyond a doubt. We had hoped to be able to lay the proceedings of the meeting before our readers this week, but they have not yet been handed in."

From every direction, we hear that the streams, wells and springs have not yet recovered from the effects of the drought last summer. The western rivers are all still low—the Chattahoochee, has perhaps seldom if ever been lower at this season, and the Coosa is so low that for weeks the boats have ceased to run between Rome and the Ten Islands.

THE WAR.—Some slight hope of peace was recently encouraged, by the announcement in the foreign accounts, that the Czar had intimated to Austria a willingness to treat on the basis of the four original points or propositions; and Russian and Austrian diplomats are said since to have been busy on this project. But this hope has again been destroyed by the very latest intelligence, that England and France, have formerly notified the other powers that they will not treat on the proposed grounds.

The allied forces in the Crimea were being reinforced at the rates of one thousand per day, and the Russians also, had been reinforced to the amount of 110,000. Every thing denoted an active winter campaign, and preparation for a more deadly and decisive struggle than any that has yet taken place. The next news will be looked for with great anxiety.

A DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION occurred at Columbia, S. C., on the 7th inst., by which a number of houses were destroyed, and involving an aggregate loss of at least \$100,000. Among the buildings destroyed was the office of the "South Carolinian and State Banner"—loss \$37,000, and no insurance.

There are only 347,525 slaveholders in the United States, of whom only two own over one thousand negroes, only nine own over five hundred, only fifty-five own three hundred, one hundred and eighty-seven own over two hundred, and fourteen hundred and seventy-nine own over one hundred. The greatest number of slaveholders own more than one and less than five; the number of this class is 102,083.

The statement of the occupations of the people shows that the *Farmers* outnumber by far any other profession. Their number is 2,263,950, while the class which approaches nearest to them is that of *Labors*, who number 960,496. The Carpenters stand next, counting 161,871; and then come *Cordwainers*, 130,393, &c.

To the Trustees and Teachers of the Free Public Schools in Benton County.

This undersigned, Commissioners, have this day received from the Superintendent, the Statements of the amount due the several Townships as interest on their 16th Section funds, up to 1st December, 1854, and of their distributive shares of the State's Educational Fund for the year 1855.

The amount for distribution for 1855 will be \$6088.12. The amount to which each Township will be entitled, will be found in the pamphlet of forms &c. which are now ready for distribution at the office of the Judge of Probate, two copies for each board of Trustees, for which they would do well to apply as early as practicable, and organize their schools for the ensuing year, agreeably to the instructions and directions therein given.

The Superintendent directs that the Commissioners draw their warrant upon him in favor of the Trustees of the several Townships for the aggregate amount due the County, as interest for the year 1854, and that the Comptroller will then draw in favor of the Commissioners, and the amount will be paid the Commissioners by the Tax Collector. And then the Trustees will apply to the Commissioners for the amount of interest due them respectively.

A. WOODS, JAS. F. GRANT, Com. JNO. D. HOKE, Dec. 19, 1854.

In the late Report of the Post Master General, the passage of a law is recommended, authorizing the establishment of a system of registration of all valuable letters at the option of correspondents—five cents additional postage being charged for registration, and all registered letters to be made up under a special post-bill, and sent under a special envelope to the Postmasters. A system of checks and accounts is also suggested, in order the more readily to ascertain when valuable letters are missing, and to give easier clue to mail robberies.

See advertisement in to-day's paper of Stevenson & Son, who have opened a store at the Brick Mills, two miles from this place. We have been informed that they sell goods cheap, and it is not so far but what our friends in the community will be induced to patronize them, out for an evening's recreation and rest, and for themselves.

The Jacksonville Republican is becoming such an excellent advertising medium, that we have to surrender a portion of our space for this purpose to our brethren in the press. As an instance of this, the reader is referred to the notice of the "Rome Courier." From several years acquaintance with the Courier as exchange, we can say that it is a very neat and interesting paper.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.—We have received from the Hon. R. McClelland, the present able and efficient Secretary of the Interior a copy of his annual Report to the President, dated Dec. 4th, 1854. In that part of his report devoted to the business of the General Land Office, in which our readers are most interested, the Secretary recommends an amendment of the late graduation act to actual settlers, so that the objects of the law may be carried out, in promoting the interest of the settler instead of the mere speculator. In this respect he says the workings of the law have proved it to be lamentably defective. The report also recommends the restriction of donations of public lands to Rail Roads, to such as may be recommended by the State Legislatures, and those to a thorough examination and rigid scrutiny, to prevent them from being prostituted to mere purposes of gain, and bestowed on works unworthy of public confidence.

From that part of the report showing the amount of lands sold, located with land warrants and donated to roads, we make the following extract:

During the last fiscal year 11,070,935 acres have been surveyed, and 8,190,217 acres brought into market. Within the same period there were sold for cash, 7,035,735 07 acres, and the amount received therefor, \$9,285,533 58.

Located with military

scrip and land

warrants, 3,416,802 26 acres

Swamp lands selected for States, 11,033,813 53

Selected on donations for roads, &c.

1,751,963 19

Making a total of 23,238,313 05 acres.

Exhibiting an increase of 5,952,240, 17-100 acres over the previous year of lands sold for cash, and a sensible diminution in the amount located with scrip and land warrants, and selected for the States.

The quantity of land sold during the second and third quarters of the present year, was about 5,425,538 acres, being an increase of about 3,826,619 acres (in cash of \$3,642,496 44) on that of the corresponding quarters of the last year.

This extraordinary difference is owing to the remarkable advance in the price of real estate over the whole country, and to the operation of the law gradually reducing the prices of the public lands.

The quantity of land granted to satisfy the warrants issued to soldiers of all our wars since 1750, amounts to 31,427,612 acres. To satisfy Virginia land warrants, scrip, embracing 837,356 acres has already been issued, and the balance yet required is estimated at about 200,000 acres.

If this be so, it will be a very bold game, for if once the genius of Revolution is let loose, it will appear most likely to fall afoul of Louis Napoleon, the pet of Revolution, and therefore its most natural victim.—*Charleston Mercury*.

We had the pleasure of attending the Examination of the pupils of the Jacksonville Male Academy, under the superintendence of Mr. Caldwell, on Thursday and Friday last. We cannot go into a detailed account of the exercises, but it is sufficient to say that they fully sustained the high reputation of Mr. Caldwell, as a Teacher, and were highly creditable to all concerned. All who witnessed the examination must have been satisfied, that as a teacher Mr. Caldwell has no superior in the State. For a series of years he has devoted himself with untiring energy to the great work of Education. The fruits of his labors are showing themselves all around us. And we are glad to see evidence that his superior talents, thorough scholarship and unflaging perseverance are in a good degree appreciated.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Ingalls offered a resolution, requesting the President to furnish information touching the refusal of France to permit Mr. Soule to pass through on his way to Madrid. The resolution was laid over.

After some other unimportant business, the House adjourned.

In the Senate on Tuesday, Mr. Bright was elected president, *pro tem.*

The examination closed with an exhibition of original and selected speeches dialogues &c. on Friday night. There was a paper mingling of the "grave and gay" to awaken the liveliest attention and a large audience were kept delighted and entranced to a late hour in the night. We have never witnessed a more interesting and amusing exhibition. An address was delivered at the close by G. C. Ellis Esq. it was well conceived, chastely and eloquently written and well received. Mr. Ellis has added much to his reputation as an orator and scholar by this able effort.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAM SHIP UNION.

COLUMBIA, Dec. 9.

The steamer *Union* has arrived with three days later advice from Europe. *Liverpool Cotton Market.*—The market has declined one eighth penny, closing dull.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

The bombardment of Sebastopol still continues, and re-enforcements for the allies were arriving rapidly. Everything was prepared for a assault, which was only deferred until the arrival of more re-enforcements, which were coming in at the rate of one thousand per day. Large Russian reinforcements were also in motion.

The English government had called on the militia for volunteers, which indicated a winter campaign.

The details of the battle of the 5th of November, show the English loss about Generals, thirty eight officers killed and wounded, and twenty three hundred and fifty privates killed, wounded and missing.

The Russian General, Liprandi and the Duke of Cambridge were wounded. Lord Raglan is a week in a field marsh. It is stated that Prince Gortschakoff has intimated to the Austrian Calmette, the willingness of Russia to negotiate a peace on the basis of the four guaranteed conditions.

Dates from Sebastopol to the 14th of November, state that both armies had completed the third parallel.

A Russian dispatch says that the allies made a demonstration against their left flank when the Russians retired. Prince Napoleon had left the camp on account of ill health.

Lord Palmerston is holding daily interviews with the French Emperor.

Lord Bulwer Stewart died at Stockholm on the 17th Nov.

It is stated that fifteen Russian war

steamer had made reconnaissance as far

as Dagestan without encountering any ships of the allies.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Sizer has been re-elected Chaplain of the Senate.

In the House, the Invalid Pension Bill has passed.

FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA.

Cordell's great Mandelier and

Gas fixture establishment in Cher-

ton Street was burnt. Loss two

hundred thousand dollars.

FROM MEXICO.

Dates from Mexico state that the election was progressing. Mexico has decided for Santa Anna to continue President.

Government employees were compelled to vote under the penalty of dismission.

The revolution appears to gain

ground. It is reported that Honduras has agreed to sell Yucatan Island to the United States or twenty thousand dollars. The ownership is disputed between Honduras and Salvador.

AFFAIRS IN THE EAST.

A gloom hangs over Europe at this moment, which we live now no hope will be dissipated without immense waste of life and treasure, and probably disastrous social and political change. The Washington Star publishes a letter from Paris, for the reliability of which it vouches in the strongest terms, of which the following is an extract:

"Lord Palmerston and Louis Napoleon have been almost inseparable since the former alighted at Hotel Windsor. Their interviews have resulted in the decision to unfurl the standard of Polish, Hungarian and Italian Nationalities, if Prussia and Austria hesitate longer to declare unequivocally against the Car. The probability is that neither the one nor the other will consent to do this; in which case all Europe will be in arms for spring."

If this be so, it will be a very bold game, for if once the genius of Revolution is let loose, it will appear most likely to fall afoul of Louis Napoleon, the pet of Revolution, and therefore its most natural victim.—*Charleston Mercury*.

Congressional.

Both Houses of Congress were organized at noon on Monday. Mr. Cass was appointed president of the Senate *pro tem.* Mr. Atchison having sent a letter resigning the presidency, and saying that he would not be able to reach Washington till the middle of December.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Ingalls offered a resolution, requesting the President to furnish information touching the refusal of France to permit Mr. Soule to pass through on his way to Madrid. The resolution was laid over.

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There are yet six other Wild Cat

Banks in the State, all of which

are considered unworthy of confidence or credit; and that the people may the more effectively protect themselves, we subjoin a list of them:

Bank of Atlanta, at Atlanta.

Bank of the Interior, at Griffin.

Merchants' Bank of Macon, at Macon.

Planters and Mechanics' Bank of Dalton.

Bank of Milledgeville, at Milledgeville.

Manufacturers' Bank of Columbus.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

A bold and extensive robbery was perpetrated Wednesday night, about 11 o'clock, by some daring scoundrels, at the Georgia Railroad Depot in this city. They entered the office by means of key and charged the iron safe with powder, blew it open, literally tearing it to pieces, from which they obtained three thousand dollars in cash, and several thousand dollars in Bank checks. The latter, however, are of no value, as their payment has been stopped at the Banks.

This is indeed a bold and daring transaction, the regular road Watchmen and a number of citizens were in the immediate vicinity, and heard the explosion, but as it was confined within the depot, could not imagine what or where it was.

